

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of	)	
	)	
Joe G. HOFFMAN et al	)	Group Art Unit: not assigned
	)	
Application No.: Divisional of Application	)	Examiner: not assigned
No. 08/881,747, filed on	)	
June 24, 1997	)	
	)	
Filed: December 10, 2001	)	
	)	
For: ON-SITE GENERATION OF	)	
ULTRA-HIGH-PURITY BUFFERED-	)	
HF AND AMMONIUM FLUORIDE	)	

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4, with the following:

This application is a divisional of copending Application No. 08/881,747, filed on June 24, 1997, which is a continuation-in-part of Application No. 08/674,130, filed on July 1, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,722,442, which is a continuation-in-part of Application No. 08/610,261, filed on March 4, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,755,934, which is a continuation of Application No. 08/179,001, filed on January 7, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 5,496,778. Copending Application No. 08/881,747 is also a continuation-in-part of PCT Application Nos. PCT/US96/10388, filed on June 5, 1996, and of

PCT/US95/07649, filed on June 5, 1995. Copending Application No. 08/881,747 also claims benefit of priority through Application No. 08/674,130 of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/018,104, filed on July 7, 1995. Each of the above-referenced documents is herein incorporated by reference.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-20 without prejudice or disclaimer.

**REMARKS**

Entry of the foregoing amendments prior to examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

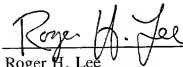
The above amendments to the specification have been made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a), and are consistent with the substitute Declaration filed on February 23, 1998, in parent Application No. 08/881,747. A copy of the Declaration is being filed herewith.

If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at his or her earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:



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Date: December 10, 2001

**Attachment to PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT dated December 10, 2001**

Paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4:

This [The] application is a divisional of copending Application No. 08/881,747,  
filed on June 24, 1997, which is a continuation-in-part of [copending application Serial]  
Application No. 08/674,130, filed on July 1, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,722,442,  
[which document is herein incorporated by reference,] which is a continuation-in-part of  
Application No. 08/610,261, filed on March 4, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,755,934,  
which is a continuation of Application No. 08/179,001, filed on January 7, 1994, now U.S.  
Patent No. 5,496,778. Copending Application No. 08/881,747 is also a continuation-in-  
part of [which application in turn claims the benefit of priority of U.S. Provisional  
Application Serial No. 60/018,104, filed on July 7, 1995. The present application also  
claims benefit of] PCT Application Nos. PCT/US96/10388, filed on June 5, 1996, [which  
documents are herein incorporated by reference] and of PCT/US95/07649, filed on June 5,  
1995. Copending Application No. 08/881,747 also claims benefit of priority through  
Application No. 08/674,130 of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/018,104, filed on July  
7, 1995. Each of the above-referenced documents is herein incorporated by reference.